

## The Intelligencer.

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 3, 1877.

## Who will Pay for the Damage Done at Pittsburgh?

The Pittsburgh press, after looking carefully into the arithmetic, have come to the conclusion that the destruction of property by the rioters in that city should be paid for by the State. They urge that so large an assessment upon Allegheny county would bankrupt it, and that by accident they were made to bear the brunt of a storm which swept the country, but which other cities were better prepared for by the warning light of the Pittsburgh conflagration. They claim that a disturbance which had proved too strong for suppression by the States of West Virginia and Maryland was no such ordinary riot as is contemplated in the law making Allegheny county responsible for damages incurred, but partook of the nature of a general insurrection. There is force in this line of argument, and it may be urged with some show of success before the legislature, but it will not hold good in the courts. The county of Allegheny is liable, beyond any peradventure, for the losses incurred, and if it gets any assistance in paying these losses it will be on grounds of charity and good fellowship, and not because it is so set down in the bond. Had the people of Pittsburgh rallied to the support of their municipal authorities, had their soldiers proved true, or had there been even such neutrality observed as the Kentucky wife maintained in the conflict between her husband and the bear, when she said she didn't care which licked, there would be a much better chance of getting an appropriation from the State to help her through the present difficulty.

## A Revision of the Common School System Needed.

The defects of the common school system in Massachusetts are attracting attention in that commonwealth. The system is costly and cumbersome, but the better opinion seems to be that it is overdone. There is too much of it. It covers so much ground that it is thin. The scholars are taught twenty branches of education between the ages of four and fourteen, whereas two or three would be all sufficient. Their attention is scattered upon a great variety of irrelevant learning to the detriment of a practical and sound foundation. Substance is sacrificed to show, and the graduates are turned out accomplished nothings. Much of this criticism bears with equal weight upon the system everywhere, which is rapidly advancing along the same track and substituting precocious cramming for judicious instruction in the common branches of education. There cannot be too much haste in arresting this vicious style of teaching, which gives to children a smattering knowledge of many things and round instruction in no single branch of learning.

## The Increased Popularity of the Regular Army as Compared With Militia.

The regular army is justly in high favor with the people just now. It has put down more of the riots than all the militia put together, and it has not killed one man. The discretion of the officers and the coolness and obedience of the men prove that the service the army has been engaged in, in the South for the last ten years, has taught it the lesson how to handle a mob almost perfectly. There will be no difficulty about the army's appropriation next fall, and the only difficulty Congress will experience, will be to resist the temptation to increase the army to unduly large proportions, in answer to the popular demand for a "force large enough to insure law and order."

## Business and Money Matters at Pittsburgh.

No important alteration can be noted in the movements of business in banking circles. Everything is quiet, although a slight ripple of improvement may be noted in connection with the resumption of trade in some quarters. Counter business and discount transactions are alike limited, with rates holding easy at 6 1/2 per cent on gilt-edged to prime commercial paper at the banks. This state of affairs is likely to continue during the greater part of August, when it is to be hoped the fall trade will find our banking interests in good shape to aid the resumption of activity. Although money is very abundant and discounts are dull, we believe that our banks are very generally avoiding the danger to which plethora and stagnant money markets are likely to lead. For the present we hope for nothing more than a continuation of the usual routine business, and cannot expect any visible improvement in affairs until the month draws to a close.

Some fears are expressed that the passing of the Pennsylvania dividend, news of which was received here to-day, may cause trouble through banks and financial institutions whose rules do not permit them to loan on non-dividend-paying stocks, throwing on the street the shares held by them as collateral. The amount so held is considerable no doubt, and this with other causes is likely to cause some depression, but the main effect of the step has already been discounted, and we do not anticipate serious complications as its result out of the interests immediately connected with the stock.

A MORMON'S PREDICTION OF WAR.—Elder Orson Pratt, of Salt Lake City, made an eloquent appeal to a small gathering of the Latter Day Saints in Williamsburg yesterday. He urged them to wind up their business and flee to Utah "before the war cloud that is gathering over this country shall break." He added: "We have 140,000 saints in Utah against 10,000 inhabitants who are not of the true faith. Nevertheless, the powerful is the enemy that seeks to break us up, our rights are greatly abridged. God is, however, with us, and when the reign of anarchy, which is surely coming in this land, begins, and every state is at war with another, the Latter Day Saints will be safe and secure."—N. Y. Sun, 30th.

A GIRL OF SIXTEEN TO BE HUNG.—Sarah E. Johnson, aged 16, who killed her child in June last in Fredrick county, N. C., has been found guilty and has been sentenced to be hanged on November 29th. The Charlotte Observer says: The case of Frank W. Houston, accessory to the crime, is being tried. The girl Sarah Johnson, who is the chief witness against him, testifies that she committed the crime at his instance, he having by threats, etc., urged her to the commission of the deed.

## A Peculiar Feature of Thursday's Frenzied Outbreak in Chicago.

From the Chicago Inter-Ocean.

Women first came to the front as rampant rioters yesterday. The taste of blood which the men had had in the early part of the day seemed to have inflamed the women. The night before last there were a few half crazed with liquor and smarting under their real or fancied wrongs, who were bold enough to yell for pillage. Yesterday there was a ripening of this sentiment, and the result was an Amazonian outbreak in the afternoon in the neighborhood of West 22nd and Oak Sts. there there were a number of planing mills, ash, door and blind factories and lumber yards. Just northeast of this are the homes of many of the most restive of the rioters. These men run down in a few minutes to Halsted street through alleys, open back-yards, etc., and disappear suddenly in the crowd of an attack from the police. The men were glutted with their encounters of the forenoon. Now was the women's opportunity, and they at once began to improve it. Hundreds of these Amazons converged in the vicinity of 20th and Oak Sts. The nearest factory from that corner was the Goss & Phillips place. The crowd rapidly increased. Women with babies in arms joined the enraged female rioters. The streets were flutted with calico of all shades and shapes. Hundreds were brandished, their disheveled locks streaming in the wind. Many were shoeless. Some were young, scarcely women in age, and not at all in appearance. Dresses were tucked up round the waists. Open busts were as common as a barber's chair. Brawny, unburied arms brandished clubs. Knobby hands held rods and sticks and wooden blocks. Female yells, shrill as a curlew's cry, filled the air. The swarthy features of the Bohemian woman were more horrible to look on in that scene than their men in the Halsted street riots. The unceasing repetition of the scenes of the Parisian commune, the fence surrounding the yard gave way and was carried off by the petticoated plunderers in their unbridled rage. There was fear for a little while that the Amazonian army would continue their depredations. Words were dispatched to the Himmans street station, and a force of officers under Lieut. Vesey pushed down to the corner of the content. The women hissed as they saw the blue-coats march along. Some of the less valorous took to their heels incontinently. Some developed into wonderful attitudes and ditches were danced over as though they were the floor of some popular ball-room. Others stood their ground. A shower of missiles greeted the boys as they came smiling along, left front into line. One woman pitched a couple of blocks at the heads of the officers and then moved on to attend to her family duties. The men were weak in the strength and forcefulness of their language compared with these wretches. Profanity the most foul rolled easily off their tongues with horrid gibes, expressions were made use of that brought the blood mantling to the cheek of the worst-hardened man in the crowd of spectators. It was awful. Several shots were fired, by whom was not known. The police soon restored order, and drove the women back, and finally scattered them. This most disgraceful of occurrences has yet deepened the shades of the already too black record of riot and villainy, for nearly a week has disgraced the fair fame of Chicago.

## Niggardly Balance Sheet—When Shall We Pay Our Debts?

ED. CUMBERLAND NEWS:—In this time of general trouble and distress it may not be uninteresting nor unprofitable for us to review the present financial status of our country, that we may glean therefrom the true position of our affairs and the reason of the burdens we are called upon to endure, and more than all, the necessity for rigid economy in the future to save us from national bankruptcy.

Very few of us are aware of the immense burden of debt upon the shoulders of the American people. It is not to be contemplated the light without surprise and fear. Without going into special details, let us look at some of the most prominent items:

1st.—The national debt: \$2,200,000,000  
2d.—The debt of the States: \$1,000,000,000  
3d.—Municipal debt: 1,000,000,000  
4th.—Debt of the various railroads: \$300,000,000  
5th.—Debt of the various cities: \$100,000,000  
6th.—Debt of the various counties: \$100,000,000  
7th.—Debt of the various towns: \$100,000,000  
8th.—Debt of the various villages: \$100,000,000  
9th.—Debt of the various hamlets: \$100,000,000  
10th.—Debt of the various farms: \$100,000,000  
11th.—Debt of the various plantations: \$100,000,000  
12th.—Debt of the various estates: \$100,000,000  
13th.—Debt of the various manors: \$100,000,000  
14th.—Debt of the various lordships: \$100,000,000  
15th.—Debt of the various baronies: \$100,000,000  
16th.—Debt of the various viscounties: \$100,000,000  
17th.—Debt of the various earldoms: \$100,000,000  
18th.—Debt of the various dukedoms: \$100,000,000  
19th.—Debt of the various kingdoms: \$100,000,000  
20th.—Debt of the various empires: \$100,000,000

## Wages in 1861 and in 1877 on the Baltimore &amp; Ohio.

A committee of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad strikers, viz: Messrs. J. H. Elder, President C. Stuckless, Samuel Moleworth, and J. D. Price, addressed a letter to Vice President King setting forth the rate of pay at which the strikers were willing to resume work. Mr. King, in his reply, says:

"That the whole question may be understood, I present a table of the rate of wages paid in 1861, in 1877, after the reduction, and the rate you now propose:

	Pay received after deducting 10 per cent.	Pay proposed July 16, 77, by Committee.	Pay proposed July 16, 77, by Committee.
Tonnage contract.	\$1.60	\$1.75	\$2.00
Tonnage broken.	1.10	1.25	1.50
Tonnage engineers.	2.00	2.25	2.50
Tonnage firemen.	1.50	1.75	2.00
Tonnage drivers.	1.00	1.25	1.50
Tonnage conductors.	1.50	1.75	2.00
Tonnage brakemen.	1.00	1.25	1.50
Tonnage porters.	1.00	1.25	1.50
Tonnage messengers.	1.00	1.25	1.50
Tonnage watchmen.	1.00	1.25	1.50
Tonnage janitors.	1.00	1.25	1.50
Tonnage cleaners.	1.00	1.25	1.50
Tonnage painters.	1.00	1.25	1.50
Tonnage carpenters.	1.00	1.25	1.50
Tonnage masons.	1.00	1.25	1.50
Tonnage bricklayers.	1.00	1.25	1.50
Tonnage roofers.	1.00	1.25	1.50
Tonnage plasterers.	1.00	1.25	1.50
Tonnage painters.	1.00	1.25	1.50
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